



United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit

# Public Information Office

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## NEWS RELEASE

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## **Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference Speaker and Panelist Biographies**

The 2005 Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference features the following speakers, panelists and presenters:

**Sherman J. Alexie, Jr.** is a Spokane/Coeur d'Alene Indian who grew up on the Spokane Indian Reservation in Wellpinit, about 50 miles northwest of Spokane. His career plans to become a physician shifted after the third time he fainted in human anatomy class. Mr. Alexie has published 16 books to date and written the very successful film *Smoke Signals*, a Sundance Film Festival award winner released by Miramax Films in 1998. He graduated from Washington State University in Pullman, and in 2003 he received the Regents' Distinguished Alumnus Award.

**David Boardman** is managing editor of the *Seattle Times*. Mr. Boardman has directed two Pulitzer Prize-winning team projects and edited four other stories that were Pulitzer Prize finalists. He has received other major national awards including the Goldsmith Prize in Investigative Reporting from Harvard University. Mr. Boardman has been a reporter and editor at several papers in the Pacific Northwest. He is a graduate of the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University and has a graduate degree from the University of Washington.

**Soo Borson, M.D.** is professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences and director of Geriatric and Family Services at the University of Washington School of Medicine. She directs a 25-year-old, university-based clinic that offers outpatient evaluation and treatment planning for the problems of late life, offering the special perspective of psychiatry as part of overall management. Dr. Borson received her medical degree from Stanford University School of Medicine in 1969. Her medical and research interests include the biology of neuron aging and survival, late-life depression, and complex medical-psychiatric problems.

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**Donald Burnett** is dean and foundation professor of law at the University of Idaho College of Law. Dean Burnett brings to legal education the broad professional background of an appellate judge, practicing lawyer and state bar president. A native of Idaho, he received his B.A. *magna cum laude* in economics from Harvard, his J.D. degree from the University of Chicago, and his LL.M. degree from the University of Chicago. Among many professional affiliations, Dean Burnett is a national board member of the American Judicature Society and member of its Task Force on Judicial Independence and Accountability.

**John Carlson** is a celebrated talk show host for Seattle's KVI Talk Radio 570. Mr. Carlson was the communications director for the Washington State Republican Party, co-founded the Washington Institute Foundation in 1985, and has been involved in broadcasting since 1993. He received a bachelor's degree in political science and graduated with honors from the University of Washington.

**Cathy A. Costantino** is counsel in the Labor and Employment Unit at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). From 1991 to 2003, Ms. Costantino was the director of the FDIC's Alternative Dispute Resolution Unit, where she had nationwide oversight for the use of ADR in internal workplace and external commercial disputes. In addition to authoring books and articles on ADR, Ms. Costantino lectures and teaches extensively, including at Georgetown Law School, George Washington School of Law, and Harvard Law School. Prior to joining the FDIC in 1989, she was deputy assistant general counsel of litigation at the Federal Home Loan Bank Board/Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation, and a litigation associate with Steptoe and Johnson LLP in Washington, from 1982 to 1986. Ms. Costantino received her J.D. from the University of California at Berkeley (Boalt Hall).

**Honorable W. Royal Furgeson, Jr.** is a district judge from the Western District of Texas and was appointed to the bench March 11, 1994. He currently chairs the Judicial Conference of the United States Committee on Judicial Resources. He received his J.D. degree with honors in May 1967 from the University of Texas School of Law, where he was an associate editor of the *Texas Law Review*. Upon discharge from the U.S. Army, he received the Bronze Star for Meritorious Service in 1969. After clerking for U.S. District Judge Halvert O. Woodward from 1969 to 1970, he was in private practice in El Paso, Texas, with the firm of Kemp, Smith, Duncan and Hammond.

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**Slade Gorton** is a former United States Senator for the state of Washington. He has been in public service since 1959, when he was elected to the Washington state House of Representatives, where he served for 10 years, including the last two as majority leader. In 1969, Mr. Gorton was sworn in as the state's attorney general and served for three terms. He served one term in the U.S. Senate from 1980 until 1986 and was re-elected in 1988 and served two consecutive terms. Mr. Gorton joined Preston Gates & Ellis LLP in 2001 as of counsel. He served on the National Commission on Federal Election Reform in 2001, and in 2002 he was appointed to serve on the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States.

**John J. Hamre, Ph.D.** is president and chief executive officer of the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). Before joining the center, he served as the 26th U.S. deputy secretary of defense, and, prior to that, was the under secretary of defense (comptroller) from 1993 to 1997. As comptroller, Dr. Hamre was the principal assistant to the secretary of defense for the preparation, presentation and execution of the defense budget and management improvement programs. Before serving in the U.S. Department of Defense, Dr. Hamre worked as staff for 10 years to the Senate Armed Services Committee. He received his Ph.D. with distinction in 1978 from the School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University.

**Honorable John Gilpin Heyburn II** is chief district judge for the Western District of Kentucky. President George H.W. Bush nominated Judge Heyburn to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Kentucky in 1992. In 1994, Chief Justice Rehnquist appointed Judge Heyburn to serve on the Budget Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States. In 1997, the chief justice appointed Judge Heyburn as chair of the Budget Committee, a role he served for the next eight years, until December 2004. Judge Heyburn has testified regularly in the House and Senate about judiciary policies and its budgetary needs. He has spoken throughout the country about the budget process and an independent judiciary.

**Honorable Robert A. Katzmann** is a judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. He was nominated by President Clinton and confirmed in 1999. He is one of the few judges on the federal bench to hold a Ph.D. (from Harvard, 1978) in addition to a law degree (from Yale, 1980). Judge Katzmann clerked for the Hon. Hugh H. Bownes of the

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U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit before becoming a fellow at the Brookings Institution from 1981 to 1999. He was a professor of law and Walsh Professor of Government at Georgetown University. He founded and is president of the Governance Institute, a non-profit organization that explores, explains and eases problems associated with both the separation and division of powers in the U.S. federal system.

**Anthony Lewis** is an author and former columnist for *New York Times*, where he worked from 1969 to 2001. He twice won the Pulitzer Prize and was awarded the Presidential Citizens Medal in 2001. From 1956 to 1957, Mr. Lewis was a Nieman Fellow, spending the year studying at Harvard Law School. While in Washington, he covered the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Justice Department and other legal matters, including the government's handling of the civil rights movement, for *The Times*. He won a Pulitzer Prize for his coverage of the Supreme Court in 1963. He is the author of three books, including *Gideon's Trumpet*, about a landmark Supreme Court case. He spent 15 years as a lecturer on law at Harvard Law School, teaching a course on the Constitution and the press. Since 1983 he has held the James Madison Visiting Professorship at Columbia University.

**Robert McCallum, Jr.** is an associate attorney general in the U.S. Department of Justice. He was nominated by President Bush and confirmed by the Senate on July 1, 2003. He had served as an assistant attorney general for the Civil Division since September 2001, overseeing litigation involving the defense of challenges to presidential actions and acts of Congress, national security and immigration. He received his undergraduate degree and his law degree from Yale University. He also attended Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar in 1971.

**George R. Nethercutt, Jr.** is a former Washington state member of the U.S. House of Representatives. During his 10-year tenure, which ended in 2005, Mr. Nethercutt served on the House Committee on Appropriations and the House Science Committee. Prior to his election to Congress, he was a practicing attorney in Washington state, specializing in estate planning, probate and adoption law. He previously served as staff counsel, and then chief of staff, to U.S. Senator Ted Stevens of Alaska. Mr. Nethercutt received his J.D. degree from Gonzaga University School of Law. He is currently a principal with the Washington, D.C. firm of Lundquist Nethercutt Griles.

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**Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor** was nominated to the U.S. Supreme Court by President Ronald Reagan, and in September 1981 became the court's first female justice. Justice O'Connor began her legal career as a deputy county attorney of San Mateo County, Calif., 1952 to 1953, and as a civilian attorney for Quartermaster Market Center, Frankfurt, Germany, 1954 to 1957. She practiced law in Maryvale, Ariz., 1958 to 1960, and served as an assistant attorney general of Arizona, 1965 to 1969. She was appointed to the Arizona State Senate in 1969 and was subsequently re-elected to two-year terms. In 1975, she was elected judge of the Maricopa County Superior Court and served until 1979, when she was appointed to the Arizona Court of Appeals.

**Elizabeth Rindskopf Parker** is dean of the University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law. She became dean in 2003 after serving as general counsel for the University of Wisconsin system. In addition to the law as it relates to national security and terrorism, her expertise includes international relations, public policy and trade, technology development and transfer, commerce and litigation in the areas of civil rights and liberties. She serves on several committees of the National Academy of Sciences including the Roundtable on Scientific Communication and National Security. Dean Parker received her J.D. degree in 1968 from the University of Michigan School of Law.

**David G. Savage** is the Supreme Court reporter for the *Los Angeles Times*. He has covered the court and legal issues since joining the newspaper's Washington bureau in 1986. In addition to writing a monthly column on the Supreme Court for the American Bar Association Journal, he is the author of *Turning Right: the Making of the Rehnquist Supreme Court*, published in 1992, and the revised *Guide to the U.S. Supreme Court, 4th Edition*, in 2004.

**Chief Circuit Judge Mary M. Schroeder** is the first woman to serve as chief judge of the Ninth Circuit. Nominated to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit by President Carter, she was confirmed by the Senate in 1979. She was elevated to chief judge of the circuit in December 2000 and maintains chambers in Phoenix. As chief judge, she serves as the court's executive office and chairs the Judicial Council of the Ninth Circuit, governing body for federal courts in the western United States. Prior to coming onto the federal bench, Judge Schroeder sat on the Arizona Court of Appeals from 1975 to 1979, and engaged in private practice in Phoenix, where she was the first woman to become a partner in a major law firm, Lewis and Roca.

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**Suzanne Spaulding** is an expert on national security related issues including terrorism, homeland security, critical infrastructure protection, cyber security, intelligence, law enforcement, crisis management, and issues related to the threat from chemical, biological, nuclear, or radiological weapons. She is currently managing director of The Harbor Group, LLC. Prior to joining The Harbor Group, she was minority staff director for the U.S. House of Representatives Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and Assistant General Counsel at the Central Intelligence Agency. Ms. Spaulding received her undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Virginia.

**Mark N. Trahant** is editorial page editor for the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* where he chairs the daily editorial board and directs a staff of writers, editors and a cartoonist. He also writes a weekly Sunday column. Mr. Trahant is a member of Idaho's Shoshone-Bannock Tribe and is a former president of the Native American Journalists Association. He has won numerous journalism awards and was a finalist for the 1989 Pulitzer Prize in national reporting as co-author of a series on federal Indian policy. In 1995, he was a visiting professional scholar at The Freedom Forum's First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt University. He is the author of *Pictures of Our Nobler Selves*, a history of American-Indian contributions to journalism.

**Michael S. Turner, Ph.D.** is the assistant director of the National Science Foundation for Mathematical and Physical Sciences and the Rauner Distinguished Service Professor at the University of Chicago. He is one of the pioneers of the interdisciplinary field that has brought together cosmologists and elementary particle physicists to study the earliest moments of creation. His current research focuses on the mystery of cosmic acceleration, which he believes is the most profound mystery in all of science. His honors include the Lilienfeld Prize of the American Physical Society, the Warner Prize of the American Astronomical Society, and memberships in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Academy of Sciences.

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